

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2488, FINANCIAL FREE- DOM ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 1999

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to dispute statements recently made on the House floor by Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi that mischaracterize the record of Republican support for the men and women who serve this country.

First, let me say that the Clinton Administration, not the Republicans, has severely over-stretched and underfunded our military. From 1991 to 1998, our military has been deployed 33 times. Compare that with only 10 from 1946 to 1991. The funding increases and commitments needed to sustain these missions abroad has been conspicuously lacking from this Administration.

Let me provide some examples. The defense budget presented by the President fell far short of the quality of life needs that our military had requested. For instance, the Administration disregarded requests for new family housing construction in the Continental United States (CONUS) made by the Army and Navy. That was unwise, given the housing backlog that stretches for ten years, and a real property maintenance backlog of almost \$1 billion.

What's worse, the services provided the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee with an unfunded priority list of over \$11 billion for this year alone, and over \$150 billion over the next five years.

While remaining within the budget caps, the Republican's Fiscal Year 2000 Defense Appropriations bill addresses these shortfalls by providing an extra \$2.8 billion above the Administration's request. Some of the highlights of the bill include: \$300 million above the budget request for pilot bonuses; \$854 million above the budget request for Qualify of Life enhancements; \$103 million above the budget request for recruiting; \$2.8 billion above the budget request for Research, Development, Test and Evaluation; and 4.8 percent pay raise (above the budget request).

Moreover, the Administration proposed in its Fiscal 2000 budget request to split-fund military construction needs, overlooking the dire situation facing many military families and personnel. Instead of providing funding up front for new housing, child care, and work facilities, as the House-passed Military Construction bill does, the Administration put budget gimmicks before the needs of the services.

To redress these wrongs, Republicans have provided funding to dramatically improve the quality of life for military families. The House approved by an overwhelming vote of 414 to 4 the Fiscal Year 2000 Military Construction Appropriations bill, which contains several provisions to improve quality of life for our troops.

It includes \$800 million for new housing, \$747 million for new family housing units, and \$2.8 billion for operation and maintenance of existing family housing units.

In the wake of increased single-parent and dual income families within the military, the legislation also provides \$21 million for child development centers. These child development centers will help military families cope with their changing life circumstances.

The Republican record of support for our Armed Forces is strong. While there is more to be done to redress years of downsizing, we have provided for the well-being of our troops and the stability of our national security.

TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA MEDINA

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today in tribute to Virginia Medina of Clarksburg, California. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in remembering this remarkable wife, mother, and public servant.

Mrs. Medina passed away on June 27, 1999 following a three-year battle with ovarian cancer. She worked as a law librarian at the California State Department of Water Resources. I salute her professional as well as personal dedication to inspiring others and working hard to make a better life for her family.

State Senator Deborah Ortiz, Mrs. Medina's daughter, described her mother as "my greatest inspiration." Mrs. Medina was a working mother who put herself through secretarial school after surviving an early bout with thyroid cancer.

She had a wonderful reputation throughout her community as a warm, loving woman who never hesitated to help others in need. Mrs. Medina inspired significant legislation in the California State Legislature, authored by her daughter, which provides for annual research funding into gender-based cancers.

At the Department of Water Resources, Mrs. Medina was known as an exceptionally hard worker with a sunny personality. She served the people of California in that agency for over fifteen years.

One of her coworkers told the Sacramento Bee, "Despite all her suffering, she always had time to listen and to encourage others. She didn't complain. She wasn't cynical. She brought a lot of love and light to other peoples' lives."

A native of Lafayette, Colorado, Virginia Medina was born to a family of migrant workers. She moved to the Sacramento area at the age of seven. Although she was a high school dropout who married at 16, she always stressed the importance of education to her own children.

Mrs. Medina not only served as a worthy role model for her daughter, but for her four sons as well. We can all respect the way in

which she raised her family, promoted strong values, and contributed to her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in remembering this strong and vibrant wife, mother, and citizen. As her family and friends endure this great loss, our thoughts are with them during this most difficult of times. Yet the legacy which Mrs. Medina leaves behind will endure for years to come.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 434) to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 434, the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act. I am honored to say that today, the vast majority of American civic, religious, and business leaders strongly support this bill. More important, all 43 nations of sub-Saharan Africa have voiced unanimous support for this bold step toward stronger economic ties between the United States and Africa.

We have also recognized that Africa's fragile democracies cannot sustain themselves without economic prosperity. I am proud to say that our government supported and promoted free and fair elections in every country where leaders were willing to allow liberty to flourish.

Now, we turn our attention toward strengthening Africa economically through US-Africa trade. The globalization of the economy, marked by integration of markets throughout the world, has made Africa the new economic frontier for economic growth. Western Europe and Japan are aggressively pursuing new trade relations with African countries. This vast continent, with its enormous resources and human capacity, may become the world's economic engine well into the 21st Century.

Africa is on the brink of a major economic revival. The United States faces strong competition from the European and Asian economic communities. The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act provides the United States with a mechanism to leverage stronger US-African public and private partnerships while promoting African and American long-term economic interests.

HR 434 is bipartisan, provides a viable framework for modernizing Africa's trade infrastructure, strengthens relations between the African and American private sector, promotes African economic reform, and lays a foundation for future cooperation.

HR 434 is the beginning of an ongoing relationship between the United States and Africa.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

The bill's requirement that the President create and convene regularly a U.S.-Africa Economic Forum means there will be opportunity to revisit and expand the program as trade increases.

Much has been said about the need for debt relief for Africa. Congressman JESSE JACKSON has forcefully brought this point home to all of us. The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act calls for deep debt relief for the poorest countries in Africa. We should keep a discussion alive on this serious matter and seek to address the debt burden in an appropriate manner.

However, today we began to build strong trade relations between the United States and Africa as it is a critical part of Africa's economic recovery and is good for American businesses.

I urge passage of HR 434.

MEMORIAL DAY

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor every "Hoosier" who took part in the 1999 Memorial Day activities in Indianapolis. It was one of the most significant weekends in the history of that great city.

As the last days of the 20th century continue to unfold, Memorial Day weekend in the capital of Indiana was one to remember. Nearly 100 Medal of Honor recipients were guests for a series of stirring tributes. These included a solemn Memorial Service; the dedication of the only memorial to recipients of the Medal of Honor; grand marshals in the IPALCO 500 Festival Parade; an outdoor concert by the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra; and a parade lap around the famed Indianapolis Motor Speedway prior to the start of the race.

As the 20th century draws to a close, many wonder if the Nation has lost sight of the sacrifices which have been made to preserve freedom. After this year's Memorial Day weekend in Indianapolis, my heart remains swollen with pride in our land and my fellow citizens. The reception given these ordinary citizens who did extraordinary things can never be equaled.

I am especially proud of the untold hundreds of volunteers who gave their free time and talent to make these events possible. Memorial Day weekend 1999 did much to convince me that our Nation's spirit of freedom is alive and well. It also underscored the true meaning of "Hoosier Hospitality."

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN MARVEL FOR MAKING THE DURANGO COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the great achievements and outstanding efforts of John Marvel. For many years, Mr. Marvel has been

involved in and contributed much to the Durango community. I wish to commend Mr. Marvel for his efforts and work for the citizens of Durango.

After completing his education at Adams State College, John Marvel began his career in banking. For the last 28 years he has contributed to the banking industry, working in 4 banks and serving as CEO for 3 of those banks. Currently, Mr. Marvel dedicates his energies to First National Bank of Durango where he is Bank President.

John Marvel also designates time to enhancing the town of Durango through various endeavors and leadership roles. Serving as President of the Durango Area Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Marvel was named the DACRA Volunteer of the Year for 1998. He has also been influential in his positions as President of Durango Industrial Development Foundation, Members of the Fort Lewis College Foundation Board, and Member of the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry Board. Because of his dedication and involvement, John Marvel was named the 1998 Recipient of Fort Lewis College Distinguished Service Award.

For his extensive work and service, I commend Mr. John Marvel and thank him for his endeavors. Mr. Marvel is a unique individual and I appreciate his commitment and work ethic.

MILITARY RECRUITMENT THROUGH EFFECTIVE PRESENTATIONS TO AMERICA'S YOUNG PEOPLE

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, we know that today our armed forces are facing serious shortfalls in recruitment. Already, these shortfalls are having a dangerous impact on our Nation's military readiness. We will have all the best tools, and no one to fight the war. In part, the problem may be caused by a blessing: America's flourishing economy, which leads our young people to enter a booming job market rather than the rigors of military service. Therefore, it is essential for our national security that our government do all that it can to support our armed forces in effectively communicating to young people of recruitment age the advantages and benefits of service.

Honor, patriotism, and the desire for adventure still engage and motivate America's young men and women. America's armed forces offer the opportunity to be part of something meaningful, to learn self-discipline and sacrifice. For many idealist young people the military offers them an experience unmatched elsewhere. So we have to get the message out about what service in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines means to their own country, and what opportunities such service entails. And we must recognize that in today's world, we are competing with some of the most effective marketing and recruitment techniques ever devised by U.S. companies, which quite reasonably want to catch as many of the best and the brightest as they can for themselves.

Therefore, it is essential that we convey our message by the most effective means possible, employing language and images engaging to young Americans of recruitment age. Programming messages by the U.S. Navy have scored significant recruiting success in recent months, partially reversing the downward trend of Navy recruitment. Programming directed toward high school students for post-graduation enlistment can be particularly beneficial. For example, Channel One, the in-school news analysis program reaches eight million American students daily. Studies have shown that it is particularly well targeted and unusually effective means of increasing awareness of the military service option and positive attitudes toward it. As a result of this exposure, students in Channel One schools are more likely to consider enlisting.

Mr. Speaker, the use of innovative methods to educate and encourage young people about the benefits of service to their country is essential in today's marketplace. Our national security demands such an effort. At the same time, service in the United States military truly provides young Americans with an opportunity to gain by giving to their country. I intend to work hard to ensure that our government expands its support for our armed forces' efforts in this direction.

THE STATE HORNET

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of The State Hornet, the newspaper of California State University, Sacramento. As the CSUS community celebrates this journalistic milestone, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in honoring the great work of this student newspaper.

Fifty years ago, just four students at the newly established Sacramento State College began The State Hornet newspaper. Their tireless work became the foundation upon which the future successes of the publication would be built.

The State Hornet first appeared on April 14, 1949. Since that first day, the student editors and reporters have worked hard to cover the news stories that most directly affect the everyday lives of its student readership and the Sacramento State community-at-large.

Since its founding, The State Hornet has experienced dramatic growth and change that is not reflected in the mere passage of fifty years. Since 1949, hundreds of talented students and generations of journalists have learned their trade in the offices of The State Hornet.

Today, approximately 75 students and staff work for the newspaper, which makes the State Hornet not only one of Sacramento State's oldest employers, but one of the largest as well. Along the way, the staff has moved from the converted shoe repair shop where the newspaper began into a modern university building.

The State Hornet is the only college newspaper in California with offices designed as a professional newsroom. Its circulation has grown from a few dozen in 1949 to 12,000 copies distributed currently.

Through decades of journalistic accomplishment, The State Hornet has provided the California State University, Sacramento community with impressive, amusing, and sometimes controversial news coverage.

The paper has documented fraudulent voting, income tax evasion, and many other significant issues. The State Hornet is moving into the next century by debuting an Internet edition that will be available on the World Wide Web.

Since 1996 The State Hornet has produced an archive of each weekly issue that is available online. In time for its 50th Anniversary, The Hornet is launching its second newspaper, The State Hornet Online. This web site will contain all the stories and information included in the print edition, but other articles will be posted daily.

Mr. Speaker, the staff of The State Hornet at CSUS has accomplished a great deal over the past five decades. These accomplishments have led to the paper's worthy reputation for journalistic excellence and sound reporting. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting The State Hornet on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary and wishing it every continued success in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF JANIE STRIDER

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, this morning, I would like to take a minute to tell my fellow colleagues and the American People about Janie Strider. Ms. Strider recently passed away and it is important that we pause to remember this remarkable Mississippian and American.

Ms. Janie Strider is from that Great Generation of Americans who carried this country through the Great Depression and World War II. She raised a family and contributed to our nation following World War II. Everyone around her knew of the love she had for her God, her family and her nation.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Strider was in her 90s. Just imagine all the changes she experienced over her lifetime. Just think about the advances in transportation and communications she saw. When she was born things like e-mail, faxes and cable television were mere science fiction.

She was an All-American Southern lady who loved baseball and the democratic Party. Ms. Janie Strider's legacy will endure for generations in the children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren she instilled with the ideas of democracy and Christian-based values that she spent her life believing in.

Mr. Speaker, Mississippi and our nation are better off because of the life of Janie Strider. I salute her and the great family she gave to all of us.

POLICE BRUTALITY; PROSTITUTION

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to have printed in the RECORD statements by high school students from my home State of Vermont, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people today. I am asking that you please insert these statements in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as I believe that the views of these young persons will benefit my colleagues.

POLICE BRUTALITY

(On behalf of Chris Callahan, Ingrid O'Reilly, Chris Lancaster, Reah Greico and Andy Weber)

Ingrid O'Reilly: To serve, honor and protect. It's a phrase that is supposed to be a representation of police forces all over America. They serve the American people, but do they really honor and protect them? By definition, honor means to regard or to treat with respect. But it seems that the police officers that harassed Officer Aaron Campbell of Florida were not respecting him, never mind honoring him.

Then there is the question of protect. Americans depend on officers in the time of danger, but for Amadou Diallo, he lost his life when four New York City officers emptied their entire rounds on him because he looked suspicious. Is our law enforcement system covered by a blue curtain and our officers put on a pedestal, or is the law enforcement just getting a bad reputation for a few mistakes?

Chris Callahan: Aaron Campbell, a 26-year veteran of the Miami Dade Police Department, was pulled over and charged with a traffic violation. Campbell didn't believe that he was pulled over because of any traffic violation, but was a victim of racial profiling. Campbell resisted arrest, and later was accused of assaulting a police officer.

Campbell was successful in convincing the jury that racial profiling is an everyday occurrence. He was later acquitted of all charges, except for resisting arrest. The fact that Campbell was a police officer helped his case significantly. Imagine the victims who are not professionally affiliated with the legal system, and the difficulty that they have proving their innocence.

Reah Greico: On February 4, 1999, Amadou Diallo, a 22-year-old African immigrant, was shot and killed by four white policemen. Officers pleaded not guilty to the murder, believing that Diallo looked like a sketch of a serial rapist, and that he was reaching for a gun. The four officers were indicted for second-degree murder.

While the murder of Amadou Diallo is not believed to have been an intentional case of police brutality, it shows how susceptible minorities are to police prejudices and brutalities.

Andy Weber: Since police enforcement began, there has always been some form of brutality or misuse of power. While there is no one solution to end brutality, many organizations and plans have been adopted to control this problem. Many precincts are waging heavier fines, longer suspensions, and even dismissals for officers convicted of brutality.

However, these actions should not even be happening. Therefore, many ideas have brought forth on how to prevent the brutality. The most popular of these ideas is

community policing. Recently, the Los Angeles Police Department instituted a community policing program, which a report explains by the following: The catalyst for moving the department away from the faceless militaristic organization, toward a 21st century model that is more compatible and interactive with local communities.

Lastly, one of the most important ways to end police brutality is the destruction of the blue curtain. Though this is the easiest solution, it is also the hardest to actually carry out.

Chris Lancaster: Both brutality and corruption among law enforcement agencies have always been problems. Fortunately, today, it has been acknowledged that these problems exist, and this is the first step towards any possible resolution. These are problems that cannot be solved by any one policy or program, and programs such as the Los Angeles Community Policing Program are simply the beginning.

As for the blue curtain, it is time to realize that, while such a code may strengthen the bonds and camaraderie among police officers, it is no excuse to withhold the truth. Taking a definitive stance on eliminating the blue curtain will end a large percentage of corruption among police, and will lead to a more productive, constructive relationship between the police and the public.

Congressman Sanders: Good job.

PROSTITUTION

(On behalf of Lynn Clough, Angela DeBlasio, Kayla Gildersleeve and Tess Grossi)

Lynn Clough: Prostitution is a major concern and a policy issue for many countries, including the United States. Prostitution is defined as a relatively indiscriminate sexually exchange made for material gain. Persons prostitute themselves when they grant sexual access for money, gifts or other forms of payment, and in doing so, use their bodies as a commodity. In legal terms, the word "prostitute" refers only to those who engage frequently and overtly in such sexual economic exchanges.

Prostitution is now illegal for most of the United States. Prostitution is wrong. It spreads deadly diseases such as AIDS, promotes violence and cruelty, and minorities are involved for the easy way out. The violence is terrible and inhumane, but the prostitutes have to deal with it. Currently, if a prostitute is murdered, the police wouldn't make a big priority of it, but it really needs to be.

The government has to realize that prostitution is still happening and is not going to ever stop. Wise governments will accept that paid sex is ineradicable and concentrate on keeping the business clean, safe and inconspicuous. Prostitution is not going to go away and it needs to be taken care of.

Angela DeBlasio: Many people know that prostitution is illegal, but they find that they have sexual needs. They know they can't get a prostitute, so they try and pick up fellow workers, which brings up sexual harassment. The United States holds a huge sexual harassment problem. Sexual harassment is one of the fastest expanding areas of American law.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which handles sexual harassment complaints, in 1991 handled over 6,000 cases, and in 1997 close to 16,000. If prostitution was legal and open for business, would there be any reason for sexual harassment cases?

Kayla Gildersleeve: One would wonder, if prostitution is going on anyway, why legalize it? The answer is simple. If prostitution is legalized, then the government would be in charge, and there would be great protection from diseases and violence. Also, there

wouldn't be any unprotected prostitutes on the streets, and they would get paid, not the pimps.

Tess Grossi: Prostitution has been a part of life throughout history, and what would make the government think that making it illegal will stop it? The sex industry is exposed to many of the forces that normal businesses must contend with, but will it ever become a normal and respected part of society? History suggests that it might. Throughout history, there have been all forms of prostitution, including legal prostitution.

Again, prostitution causes deadly diseases to spread more rapidly, and there is great violence and inhumanity involved. All of these problems can be eradicated if the government would legalize it. The government is the only answer to solving the problem. Prostitution will never go away. Therefore, the government should legalize prostitution.

Lynn Clough: The people and the prostitutes are afraid to go to the government for help, and so the government needs to go to them.

Thank you.

WARREN VILLAGE IN DENVER, COLORADO IS AN INNOVATIVE AND UNIQUE FAMILY SERVICE COMMUNITY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize one of Colorado's most innovative and unique family service communities, Warren Village in Denver, Colorado. Warren Village is a service created to help low-income single-parents move from public assistance to personal and economic self-sufficiency through subsidized housing, on-site child care, counseling, and education, or job training.

Warren Village was established in 1974, marking July as the institution's 25th anniversary. Upon establishment, Warren Village was the Nation's first federally subsidized transitional housing program for single-parent families. Founders of Warren Village included Warren United Methodist Church, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and local business leaders.

Warren Village provides three integrated programs to its residents. The housing program provides accommodations for families of up to four children and one adult. The Learning Center uses a multi-cultural and gender-fair curriculum for at-risk urban children. The Family Services Program provides comprehensive case-management, vocational assessment, and life classes on topics ranging from goal achievement, to parenting, and leadership opportunities.

Residents of Warren Village are required to participate in activities that include evening educational classes, volunteer services, and must attend school or work full time. These activities must be completed as a condition of their lease agreement; progress of each resident is monitored quarterly. Residence at Warren Village is not an entitlement, but rather a privilege to be earned by personal progress.

Warren Village is a nonprofit organization that has more than 1,500 active community volunteers from schools, businesses, youth

groups, and churches. In 1998, Warren Village had over 1,800 unduplicated volunteers donate their time. The limited financial resources of the institution are supplemented by the time and remarkable talents of these volunteers.

Over the past 25 years, Warren Village has received numerous national and State honors and awards for its outstanding services to the Denver Metro area. Warren Village has become a national model for providing constructive solutions for serious issues that plague every community in the Nation. With more than 2,500 families graduated from the program, cities across the country have replicated the Warren Village model.

I would like to congratulate Warren Village on 25 years of remarkable service and outstanding dedication to the community of Denver, as well as the State of Colorado. The hard work and significant achievements of Warren Village exemplify the notion of public service and civic duty. Colorado is both honored and extremely fortunate to have such an effective agency derive from our State.

COMMERCIAL SPACE TRANSPORTATION COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 1999 (H.R. 2607)

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Commercial Space Transportation Competitiveness Act of 1999.

Last year, the American people learned that two U.S. companies had helped Communist China improve its Long March launch vehicles. And we've all heard about the immediate and long-term impacts this is having on our national security.

But this travesty was merely the symptom of a greater challenge. In Communist China, we have a ruthless dictatorship that is using commercial space activities to help its military someday compete with the United States. In America, however, we have a space transportation industry that has grown up as an extension of the government, and therefore hasn't been dynamic enough to meet the launch needs of our vibrant commercial satellite industry. Sadly, these two facts created the circumstances that led to the technology transfers we have learned about.

Ever since I entered Congress over a decade ago I have championed the issue of improving America's space transportation capabilities. With leadership and support from colleagues like my late friend George Brown, the Committee on Science has reported, won House passage, and seen enactment of several legislative initiatives over the past decade. The legislation I am introducing today is another significant step towards the goal stated by the Select Committee led by CHRIS COX and NORM DICKS; improving U.S. "space launch capacity and competition."

The aerospace industry—along with the FAA—has testified before the Space & Aeronautics Subcommittee on ways to improve U.S. launch competitiveness. The message we have heard loud-and-clear is that their top priority is the renewal of the government-industry risk sharing plan known as "indemnification." Mr. Speaker, this bill extends in-

demnification authority for a full 5 years beyond its scheduled expiration this December.

I do wish, however, that we had more time to fully consider this issue. Industry has been signing launch contracts for nearly 3 years that presupposed an automatic renewal. With little time for debate about whether this is the right risk sharing plan for the future, the Science Committee was put in a tough spot that I for one don't want to see repeated in 5 years.

So this bill also directs that various government agencies and industry sectors present Congress with the broadest possible range of ideas as to whether and how this risk sharing regime should change in the future. Make no mistake about this: we want to give U.S. industry a stable business environment so they can be more competitive in the international marketplace. However, we also want to start the process now of planning for risk sharing in 2005 and beyond.

This legislation authorizes funding through Fiscal Year 2002 for the FAA's Office of the Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation. Over the past two years, Patti Grace Smith has dramatically reformed and improved this office. She and her staff have worked hard to keep up with rapid growth in U.S. commercial space transportation, while drafting regulations to help industry move forward into the era of reusable launch vehicles. For these reasons, we have provided this office with a steady increase in funding over the next 3 years.

The other non-user agency that works with the commercial space transportation industry is the Office of Space Commercialization (OSC) within the Department of Commerce. Last year the Congress created this office in law, and this bill provides OSC with steady funding but requires the office to lay out more specific programmatic objectives and results so the Congress can judge its progress.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer this legislation to help make America's commercial space transportation industry more competitive. I want to thank Science Committee Chairman JIM SENSENBRENNER for his help and encouragement in developing this bill. I would also like to thank Chairmen JOHN MCCAIN and BILL FRIST in the Senate, and also Senator JOHN BREAU, for actively focusing on commercial space transportation issues. We look forward to joining with them soon to send a mutually agreeable version of this legislation to the White House for the President's signature.

TRADE POLICY REFORM ACT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, our foreign competitors have been dumping steel in America below market value for well over a year. This practice, which has been allowed to continue unencumbered by the Clinton Administration, has had a devastating effect on the U.S. steel industry and U.S. steelworkers. I have taken numerous actions, alone and in conjunction with the Congressional Steel Caucus, to urge the Administration to change its backward trade policy and remedy the current

crisis. In March, the House passed the Bipartisan Steel Recovery Act, which imposes quotas on steel imports above a certain level, for three years. Short-term solutions, however, are not a panacea. In order to rebuild the confidences of American industry and the American worker in the international trading system—and particularly in U.S. trade policy—Congress should reform three major trade law regimes: (1) enforcement of international trade agreements, (2) remedies against disruptive import surges, and (3) remedies against foreign unfair trade practices.

There is an urgent need to strengthen Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, which was enacted to enable the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to open foreign markets closed to imported products and services by unreasonable trade barriers. The effectiveness of Section 301 has been significantly undermined by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU) and the emergence of new, harder-to-reach forms of foreign trade barriers. Section 301 now serves almost exclusively as a mechanism by which complaints are funneled through the USTR en route to the WTO. The bilateral component of U.S. trade diplomacy has been allowed to decay. The WTO has been ineffectual in dealing with modern, complex trade issues such as the closure of foreign markets by governments working with private monopolies and cartels (e.g. *Kodak v. Fuji*). Title I of the Trade Policy Reform Act would reinstate this bilateral component of U.S. trade diplomacy and require new reporting requirements by the Office of U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to Congress. These new reporting requirements: (1) make the USTR more accountable to Congress, and (2) provide for direct information dissemination to Congress, in order to improve Congressional oversight, and (3) address both market access barriers and foreign compliance with international accords. The "Trade Policy Reform Act" also mandates appropriate action by the Commerce Department when market access barriers or non-compliance with trade accords is found.

Specifically, Title I requires monitoring of and reports on foreign market access for U.S. goods and services, negotiations to gain market access, progress reports on negotiations, monitoring of compliance with trade agreements, and 301 actions should negotiations fail or should countries refuse to negotiate or in the case of noncompliance with agreements. The Trade Policy Reform Act would also bring the National Trade Estimates (NTE) report closer to Congress' original goals and address current illegal trade practices such as prison labor, etc. The NTE is further amended to include input by affected U.S. industries and their employees. Congress devised the NTE in the 1980s to inventory, on an annual basis, foreign trade barriers affecting U.S. exports of goods and services. The purpose was to bring about negotiations to eliminate such barriers. The list today does not serve its intended function.

With respect to relief from unfair trade practices, Title II of the Trade Policy Reform Act mandates action by the USTR, for the first time, against collaborations between foreign governments and private enterprises to restrict market access for U.S. goods and services by making such collaborations actionable. Moreover, the legislation would allow any interested party, defined as one who has been economi-

cally adversely affected, to request a review of country compliance with any trade agreement. Non-compliance is actionable.

In addition, Title II would prohibit the Secretary of Commerce from using any funds appropriated by Congress to implement existing agreements and negotiate any new ones for those categories of steel included in H.R. 975, the Bipartisan Steel Recovery Act. Section 2106 also directs the Secretary to withdraw from the current agreements and notify the other signatories of that action.

Title III of the Trade Policy Reform Act would abolish the International Trade Commission and transfer its authority and responsibilities to the Department of Commerce. The ITC's continued independence and existence outside of any institution accountable to the people of the United States undermines America's industry and hurts America's workers. The ITC's independence is precisely what makes it the least appropriate body to determine whether U.S. industries are being injured by imports and what relief those industries should be given. America's workers deserve to have an agency on their side, protecting their interests, with their security and success its primary goal. Although the ITC Commissioners are confirmed by the Senate, Congress has no other role whatsoever in its oversight (other than appropriating its operating funds).

When the ITC purports to not be a policy-making body, it really means that it does not follow American policy, just its own. The ITC's policy clearly places the concerns of foreign industries on the same plateau as our own industries, and American workers suffer. Furthermore, the ITC contradicts itself. On one hand it claims to be an independent agency that conducts objective studies on international trade. On the other hand the ITC is required to assist the President, making recommendations on how to relieve industries injured by increasing exports, and advising him on whether agriculture imports interfere with governmental price support programs. In filling these dual roles, the ITC is the equivalent of a referee that makes calls in a game while coaching his team from the sidelines. The Commissioners of the ITC are supposed to serve the American people. The American worker does not need a coach that is also required to fill the role of "objective" referee. An agency like the ITC cannot entirely fulfill its duties. Title III will abolish this problematic agency, transfer its authority to the Department of Commerce, and in doing so fill the much-needed role of a trade agency that successfully champions the causes of the American workers.

For an agency charged with the awesome responsibility of being the last line of defense of American industry against foreign attack, objectivity and unaccountability are unacceptable. Moving its functions to the Secretary of Commerce would subject those roles to tougher scrutiny by Congressional committees of jurisdiction and, consequently, to the American people. The Secretary would be responsible for all decisions made on behalf of America's workers and would have to answer to the elected representatives of the American people for those determinations.

Finally, Title IV of the Trade Policy Reform Act creates a WTO Review Commission to strengthen the dispute resolution process. Section 301 provisions require the U.S. to bring Section 301 cases involving trade agreements to the dispute settlement procedures

established under the agreements. Therefore, U.S. membership in the WTO does not diminish or restrict the ability of the United States to initiate Section 301 cases, but does require it to submit cases involving WTO trade agreements to the WTO for dispute settlement. If the U.S. wins, the loser must comply with the WTO ruling or face retaliation measures.

What happens when the U.S. loses a case in the WTO? Technically, the United States could issue Section 301 trade sanctions, despite any decision made under the WTO dispute resolution process. However, if the United States imposed an unauthorized sanction on a WTO-covered item (e.g. raised the tariff beyond a negotiated rate), the sanctioned country might issue a complaint to the WTO, which might rule against the U.S. The WTO has no real authority to force any nation to change its laws or abide by its rulings. If the U.S. chose to ignore WTO rulings, it would run the risk that other nations would too. In order for the DSU mechanism to work, WTO members, including the U.S. must be willing to "play by the rules."

Specifically, the WTO Review Commission would review the WTO dispute settlement cases adverse to the United States to determine if the WTO had exceeded its authority, which could lead the President to seek changes in WTO dispute settlement rules. For example, should the Commission determine that the WTO's ruling in favor of Japan in the Kodak-Fuji case was due to lack of authority in anti-competitive practices, the Commission could then direct the President to negotiate an anti-competitive trade agreement to expand WTO authority. The creation of a WTO Dispute Settlement Review Commission is both a mechanism for protecting U.S. trade interests as well as an "official" means for the U.S. to initiate improvements in the Dispute Settlement system, as problems arise. The United States could base future trade negotiations on the Commissions findings.

It is incumbent upon Congress to restore to confidence of U.S. industry and American workers in our international trading system. To accomplish this objective, Congress must ensure a fair and equitable international trading system: illegal trade practices must not be tolerated, foreign markets that restrict American goods and services must be liberalized, international panels must be scrutinized for any bias, conflict of interest, or overstepping or authority, and ineffective government agencies must be reinvented to serve U.S. business and labor. The "Trade Policy Reform Act" provides common sense solutions to some of the key problems with America's trade policies. I urge all Members to cosponsor this legislation.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 514TH AIR MOBILITY WING

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the men and women of the 514th Air Mobility Wing on the commemoration of your 50th anniversary! The citizens of the United States, and especially of New Jersey, recognize and

appreciate your impressive contributions to our great nation.

Over the past 50 years you have endured changes in your name, command, mission, aircraft, and location. You've been activated and deactivated, stretched far beyond your resources and had your budgets slashed to frightening levels. Through it all, you stayed the course, steadfast in your commitment to serve, professional and dependable, always meeting the demands placed upon you.

You continue to enjoy unparalleled success as the premier associate wing in the Air Force Reserve Command. The nation has watched the members of the 514th AMW leave your families and home for the Korean war, the Cuban missile crisis, the Vietnam war and the evacuation of South Vietnamese refugees. Alongside your active duty brethren, you were among the first forces into the Vietnam conflict. In fact, it was a reserve crew from the now-deactivated 335th Military Airlift Squadron that flew the last mission of Operation Babylift from Saigon. You continue to support Operation Southern Watch and humanitarian missions too numerous to count.

Please accept this tribute of a nation grateful for the tremendous sacrifices you have made and continue to make in defense of the many freedoms we enjoy. We are proud of you. We support you. We thank you.

MAYS FAMILY IN ROBSTOWN

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a family that has been a large part of the history of my hometown, Robstown, Texas, for the better part of the 20th Century. Next week, the Mays Family will hold a family reunion in the Omni Bayfront Hotel in Corpus Christi, Texas.

I am honored to know this fine family, and I want to let my colleagues in the House of Representatives know about these pioneers. Riley and Ella Mays moved to Robstown from Kosse, Texas, in 1912; they were the first black family to live in Robstown, which is a largely Hispanic enclave west of Corpus Christi in Nueces County in the Coastal Bend of Texas.

The Mays family is a distinguished and respected family in the community and in the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, which was founded by Riley Mays. Both Riley and Ella saw the need for a Baptist church in the area, so they acquired a building which doubled as a church and as the first black public school in the area.

Riley Mays was the first Deacon there and a Sunday School teacher until his death. Ella Mays was a nurse and the first president of the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church's missionary society. They both directed the school there.

To commemorate the first black family to settle in Robstown and to honor the family patriarch, the city named a street in Riley Mays' honor. Shortly, a historical marker will be established at the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church to pay tribute to the Mays family as well. The great and lasting legacy left to their family by Riley and Ella Mays is that the

strength of the United States is found in the family unit.

This is the tradition that their descendants celebrate each day and it is the tradition that they will celebrate en masse August 6–8, when they hold their family reunion. Riley and Ella Mays had 14 children, and today have over 450 descendants who are active in their communities, schools and churches all over Texas and the United States.

I ask my colleague to join me in wishing them well as they gather to commemorate their families' tradition of service to community and country.

HONORING RONALD E. TEATER

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, this morning, I would like to take a minute to tell my fellow colleagues and the American people about Ronald E. Teater. Mr. Teater is a great, faithful and hardworking Mississippian. He is the kind of person who should serve as a role model for all of us.

I am telling you about Mr. Teater today because he is being honored this weekend by the Mendenhall, Mississippi Fire Department. Can you imagine being part of one organization for fifty years? Mr. Teater can because that is how long he has been faithfully serving the citizens of Mendenhall in their fire department. This dedication to the people of his community speaks loudly and clearly as to the good character of Mr. Teater.

Ronald E. Teater is an American who fought for his nation during World War II in the United States Navy. Mr. Teater has also served the people of Mendenhall as a town alderman. He has been a man for all seasons. He has given his time in making all of our lives safer and better.

And, I understand that Mr. Teater has no intentions of slowing down.

Just think about being a fireman for 50 years. Think about the countless people he has protected. Think about the folks he has helped and consoled. We can never be thankful enough to our nation's firefighters. And, Mr. Teater goes at the top of the list.

Ronald E. Teater is a person to admire, look up to and respect. He is a man that deserves our praise. To Mr. Teater I would like to say thank you. Thank you for serving, thank you for caring and thank you for giving your time, energy and efforts to make Mendenhall, Mississippi and America what they are today.

RECOGNIZING JACK QUINN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding efforts and hard work of Mr. Jack Quinn. Because of his leadership, work ethic, and selection to participate in the Washington, DC Fannie Mae Partnership Summit, I now honor this remarkable man.

Mr. Quinn received a bachelor of science degree from Fairfield University and later earned a master of arts in public administration from the University of Northern Colorado. After finishing his education, he went on to serve the people of Colorado, specifically Pueblo, CO, in various capacities.

Jack Quinn has been an active participant in many housing organizations including Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, Colorado Housing Finance Authority, and Pueblo Neighborhood Housing Services. He was instrumental in founding the Mountain/Plains Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials in 1973. Recently, he completed a 2-year term as National President of this association.

Mr. Quinn also takes an active role in his community, serving as the chairman of the board of St. Mary Corwin Regional Medical Center and chairman of the Finance Committee for Pueblo Community College Foundation. At one time, he also dedicated his time and energy to serving as Chairman of United Way. Presently, Mr. Jack Quinn works with the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce, the Latino Chamber of Commerce, and the State Fair.

Mr. Jack Quinn is a unique and valuable individual. Working for the Pueblo Housing Authority for over 30 years, he has served as Executive Director for 27 of those years. I greatly appreciate his role in leadership, his involvement and dedication to the Pueblo community, and the example he sets.

FINANCIAL FREEDOM ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today to express his qualified support for H.R. 2488, the Financial Freedom Act. At the outset, this Member thinks that a tax cut is very good for the American people and for the economy, but he wants to make sure that it is the right size and that it focuses on middle income Americans.

In particular, this Member also wants to see some of the future surplus funds used to reduce the national debt. By locking away some of the additional money for Social Security and Medicare, and by reasonable limits on the tax cut, we can devote more of any real surplus to retiring more of the national debt. At this Member's town hall meetings, he has found Nebraskans resoundingly in favor of reducing the national debt and many of his colleagues have told him that they have had the same experience. This Member is pleased to know that the manager's amendment to H.R. 2488 expresses the sense of Congress on its commitment to debt reduction and a national debt increase trigger which would annually block the across-the-board Federal income tax reduction if the amount of that debt interest outlay increases for total U.S. Federal Government debt from the amount of the previous year. This means there will be an iron-clad method to assure that there is a payment toward reducing the national debt.

This Member is confident that the size of the tax cut will be reduced in conference. He thinks that the proposed reduction in taxes

over the next 10 years may be too big because of overly optimistic budget surplus projections. This Member fully expects that after conference with the Senate this tax cut will be reduced in size.

In regards to inheritance taxes, this Member does not think the conference version of this tax bill should or will include a total elimination of the Federal inheritance tax in the case of "super-wealthy" individuals. While this Member wants to give inheritance tax relief to family farms and family small businesses by accelerating the exemption level for Federal inheritance taxes to \$1 million, he does not think it is appropriate at this time to eliminate the Federal inheritance tax altogether for very wealthy individuals. Hopefully, the complete phase-out will be eliminated in the House-Senate Conference. Some say the super-wealthy don't pay inheritance tax anyway—that they in part give it to charities or establish foundations to avoid taxes. Of course that is an exaggeration, but certainly we don't want to reduce such charity or beneficial giving by eliminating the inheritance tax on the super-wealthy. The American society would surely be harmed.

This Member also notes that the legislation includes tax relief for private utilities with nuclear power plants in a state-deregulated environment. It is important to recognize that as states have taken action to deregulate, two unintended Federal tax problems have resulted. This bill addresses the nuclear decommissioning fund issue which affects private utilities. Unfortunately, the bill does not address the private-use issue which affects consumer-owned utilities. This Member hopes that during the conference, relief can also be provided to consumer-owned utilities which are also hindered by an outdated Federal tax law.

On a different note, this Member is quite pleased that two particular provisions are included in H.R. 2488 which will increase rural housing opportunities. In fact, this Member has been quite active during his entire tenure in promoting the need for adequate, affordable rural housing. First, H.R. 2488 includes an increase in the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program from \$1.25 to \$1.75 per capita. The bill phases in the increase by 10 cents per year from 2000 to 2004 until it reaches \$1.75 and indexes it for inflation thereafter. This provision will give states additional resources in providing rural housing throughout America. Second, H.R. 2488 accelerates the phase in of the private activity cap to \$75 per capita beginning in 2000. This provision will give additional capital for financing home purchases by low and moderate-income homebuyers in the mortgage revenue bond program.

Therefore, for the above reasons and others, this Member gives his qualified support to H.R. 2488, the Financial Freedom Act.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEACHER TAX EXEMPTION ACT OF 1999

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation that would strengthen our national educational system by addressing the most important education issue facing the country, teacher quality.

My legislation will provide a financial bonus, in the form of a tax exemption, to qualified teachers who teach in schools where fifty-percent or more of the children qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

There are many things we can do to increase teacher quality, and some steps are being attempted now through other legislation. But one of the most concrete and important steps we can take is to create real financial incentives for qualified individuals to teach in high-poverty schools.

For high poverty schools, attracting and retraining well-qualified teachers is a critical part of a comprehensive strategy to close the achievement gap between rich and poor students and between minority and non-minority students.

Schools serving low-income students have far too few adequately qualified teachers. Research suggests that this is one of the primary reasons that the achievement of low-income students lags behind that of more affluent students.

This achievement gap is both unnecessary and dangerous. All children can achieve at high levels if they are taught at high levels. The achievement gap threatens not only the life chances of millions of low-income students but also the civic and economic health of the country as a whole.

It is incumbent upon us to act quickly and decisively to correct it.

We have heard much about nationwide "teacher shortages." Indeed, the U.S. Department of Education estimates that schools will need to hire 2 million teachers over the next decade.

But the real problem is not absolute teacher shortages, but rather shortages in specific geographical areas and in certain academic subjects. In particular, there is a dearth of teachers in particular subject areas—such as special and bilingual education, mathematics, and science. And there is a shortage of qualified teachers in underfunded schools, particularly in urban and rural districts.

For example, in the largest local educational agency in my Congressional district—the West Contra Costa County Unified School District—62% of all teachers hired this year are college interns or are teachers with emergency credentials. Because West Contra Costa is not as affluent as other neighboring school districts, and therefore cannot offer the same salaries and working conditions, it faces serious challenges in competing for qualified teachers.

Furthermore, even within the same school district, where schools offer the same salary schedules, emergency-certified teachers are overwhelmingly concentrated in the highest poverty schools. While the high-poverty schools 50% or more of the entire faculty is under-qualified, in other schools, just miles away, all teachers are fully-credentialed.

I believe that higher pay, along with ongoing professional development and support, especially for new teachers, can go a long way in leveling the educational playing field. Boosting pay in key professions is widely recognized as an effective strategy for maintaining quality. For example, the House Defense Appropriations bill for the Fiscal Year 2000 contains \$300 million in bonuses to help retain qualified Air Force pilots.

We need to mount a similar effort nationwide to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers so that all children, regardless of

where they live or their family background, have the opportunity for a world-class education.

My legislation would exempt the first \$40,000 in salary for teachers teaching academic subjects in high-poverty schools—schools in which at least 50% of the students enrolled qualify for the free or reduced price lunch programs. It would increase take-home pay by about \$5,900 for a qualified single teacher with the average national teacher salary of \$40,000.

In order to qualify for the exemption, teachers who provide instruction would have to be qualified to provide instruction in each and every academic course they teach. Elementary school teachers would have to demonstrate teaching skill and general subject matter knowledge required to teach effectively in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, science, and other elements of a liberal arts education. Middle school and secondary school teachers would have to demonstrate a high level of teaching skill and subject matter knowledge in the subjects they teach either by attaining passing scores on academic subject area tests or by holding a bachelor's degree with an academic major in each of the subject areas in which they provide instruction.

Qualified special education teachers and bilingual teachers also would be eligible for the exemption.

I believe a teacher salary tax exemption is an ideal way to solve several critical problems. It would strengthen education, and address the most important education issue facing the country, by steering high quality teachers to underperforming schools. And it would provide targeted tax relief to the middle class rather than an open-ended tax cut that benefits wealthier Americans without solving any critical particular social problem.

U.S. teachers teach more hours per day than their counterparts in other countries and take more work home to complete at night, on the weekends and holidays. At the same time, U.S. teachers must go into substantial debt to become prepared for a field that pays less than virtually any other occupation requiring a college degree.

I believe taxpayers are willing to direct additional resources to raise teacher salaries to a level commensurate with teachers' knowledge and skills and with the important role they play in our society. But I also think the public wants and deserves to know that such funds are being spent in an effective and responsible manner that results in improved academic achievement for students. That means tying increased pay to teacher qualifications and deploying our most talented teachers in the areas that are having the most difficult time attracting and retaining them.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in passing this important legislation.

CONGRATULATING MS. WILSON'S KINDERGARTEN CLASS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a great day, on which thirty Kindergarten students from the Shady Lane

Elementary School reached all of the appropriate levels on their Terra Nova test. Ms. Martha Wilson's Kindergarten class is an outstanding group of young people. I wish the best of luck to the following group of kindergartners who shared this special day with me at the Shady Lane School: Courtney Callahan, Nicholas Battee, Jaimie Beeker, Destiny Bingham, Brian Buck, John Childress, Robert Kilcourse, Kody McMichael, Marisa Peters, Matthews Raively, Deborah Robinson, Karen Sabater, Donald Smith, Richard Smith, Marcus Smith, Ayana Thomas, Jessica Welch, George Williams, and Nylan Wolcott.

RECOGNIZING CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN'S BUEHLER ENABLING GARDEN

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to recognize one of the most beautiful places in my District, the Chicago Botanic Garden, and to celebrate the Garden's grand opening of the Buehler Enabling Garden.

The Chicago Botanic Garden is a clear leader in horticultural therapy and barrier-free gardening. It is only fitting that in the year that our nation celebrates the 10th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Chicago Botanic Garden celebrates the grand opening of a beautiful and unique 11,000-square-foot garden design to encourage life-long gardening for people of all ages and abilities. Over two years of design and construction work culminated in the July 17th and 18th grand opening of the Buehler Enabling Garden, a garden that will serve to demonstrate an array of techniques that can make gardening fully accessible to people with disabilities.

For millions of individuals, gardening offers relaxation, social involvement, exercise, and a sense of accomplishment. Unfortunately, for people with disabilities, gardening may be cumbersome and difficult. The Chicago Botanic Garden's Buehler Enabling Garden, however, is not only barrier-free but its plant materials and garden structures have been carefully chosen to accommodate people with disabilities and older adults. The Enabling Garden is intended to serve as a model for people with disabilities, human service professionals and landscape architects. In fact, on July 28th, the Chicago Botanic Garden will hold a symposium for professionals in the health, human service and design fields to learn how to transfer techniques learned at the Enabling Garden to their own institutions or their own backyards.

Some of the examples of such gardening techniques are raising flower bed and containers, building vertical gardens and hanging baskets on pulley systems, and providing adequate seating, shade, water and paving within the garden for the disabled. The Buehler Enabling Garden also exhibits a wide range of devices, tools and plants that contribute to accessibility and sensory appeal for the sight-impaired. Appropriate tools used in an enabling garden are generally small and lightweight or

have large, foam-padded handles that are easy to manipulate. In addition, the variety of plants that are best suited for an enabling garden could include fragrant or textural plants for those people with visual impairments, or dwarf plants in containers or hanging baskets that can bring gardening activities within easy reach.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the Chicago Botanic Gardens is sharing its expertise in horticultural therapy to make gardening accessible to people of all abilities. I invite all Members to join me in recognizing the grand opening of the Buehler Enabling Garden at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CASPIAN CITY MANAGER ROSALIE KING

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant who has served her small northern Michigan community of Caspian for almost a quarter of a century.

A reception for Rosalie King tonight celebrates her many services to the residents of Caspian. Although I can't be at that event, I'd like to share some thoughts with you and House colleagues on her work.

Let me first remark on the kind of community in which Rosalie has worked since 1978.

Much of northern Michigan was settled in the late 1800s. Most of these towns in northern Michigan were part of an early boom in such industries as mining—both copper and iron mining—and timber. By the turn of the century, many of these settlements had become communities. In the next quarter century services, such as water and wastewater treatment and brick streets, were added to these many small towns.

The problem faced by many of these towns is the aging of this basic infrastructure. Water pipes no longer provide pressure sufficient for adequate fire protection, and in some cases they sustain failures because of frost heaving or age-related problems that force continuous and expensive repairs.

More important, with the boom years far behind, basic infrastructure does not permit the development of industrial parks or the rehabilitation of downtowns that can be the basis for economic redevelopment.

It has been in the area of pursuing grants for this kind of community maintenance and redevelopment that Rosalie King has excelled. As the city manager of Caspian she has successfully won millions in grants and equally successfully administered them, making future grant acquisition more likely.

I have had the pleasure of being able to work with the dynamic community leader who has fought so long and hard for the betterment of the citizens she serves. Rosalie personifies the best of what local leadership can be and she has demonstrated the best that programs like Rural Development can be in terms of helping small communities maintain a quality of life and an ability to maintain and even at-

tract economic investment. Other northern Michigan communities look to Caspian as an inspiration and a model for community pride and leadership.

But Rosalie King has been more to her community than a public official. She is one of those rare individuals who has been able to give complete dedication to all areas of her life, family, church and community. In addition, she has been interested and involved in recreation programs, especially hockey.

I know Rosalie will continue to dedicate her many talents to the friends and neighbors that make up the Caspian community. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to join me in this salute to Rosalie King, a dynamic city manager, as she brings to a close a long distinguished career.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE GRAND OPENING OF THE EASTMONT COMPUTING CENTER FOR THE OAKLAND COMMUNITY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Eastmont Computing Center, located in East Oakland, California, on its grand opening. This multi-million dollar computing center is a project of The Oakland Citizens Committee for Urban Renewal (OCCUR), which was established in Oakland, California in 1954 for the purpose of raising the quality of life for all of Oakland's residents, with the emphasis on serving those in the greatest need of a balanced delivery of goods, effective public policy, and services. OCCUR created the Eastmont Computing Center (ECC) to serve as a community resource on information technologies in order to provide universal computer and Internet access and employment focused training to Oakland citizens.

The Eastmont Computing Center provides cutting-edge information technology training to youth and other residents of under-served communities. The Center provides a broad range of unique skills and employment training programs to youth, senior citizens, and community-based organizations.

The Center is one of only three California recipients of the highly competitive U.S. Department of Commerce Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Assistance Program grants. Additional funding for the Center is provided by a number of government, foundation, corporate and individual donors including the Eastmont Town Center, Pacific Gas and Electric, Chevron, Pacific Bell, The San Francisco Foundation, Oracle, Hewlett Packard and IBM.

I wish to commend the management and staff of the Eastmont Computing Center for their tireless work and for their diligence. It has been through their perseverance that they have garnered the resources necessary to establish and operate this training facility for the benefit of all the citizens of Oakland.

I wish to extend to the Eastmont Computing Center, its staff, donors and support volunteers sincere best wishes for success as they begin to deliver technology access and employment training services to the citizens of Oakland.

HONORING RAYDELL MOORE'S 35
YEARS AS A POSTAL UNION NA-
TIONAL OFFICER

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to bring to the attention of my colleagues the recognition of Mr. Raydell Moore of Long Beach, California by the American Postal Union (APWU), AFL-CIO, as one of their longest serving national officers. Mr. Moore has served APWU proudly for 35 years as a national officer in the western region.

Mr. Moore was born in Austin, Texas and received has formal education there. While in high school, he played football and was a teammate of Dick (Night-Train) Layne who later played for the Detroit Lions. Mr. Moore graduated from Tillitson College with a B.A. Degree in Chemistry.

Mr. Moore served in the U.S. Air Force beginning in 1945. After his discharge, he began his employment with the Postal Service in June 1952 and later became active with the Union in Long Beach, California.

He was the Executive Vice President of the Long Beach Local in 1963 and became Executive Vice President of the California National Postal Union in 1964.

In 1964, Mr. Moore became the National Postal Union Regional Representative and held that position until 1971, while also serving as the Long Beach Local President between 1965 and 1971. In 1971, the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO was formed and Mr. Moore was the APWU National Representative between 1971 and 1977. His position was to represent the union at regional level labor-management meetings and resolve disputes with the region on both contract interpretation and employee discipline.

In 1977, Mr. Moore was elected Western Regional Coordinator for the entire Western Region of APWU, the largest geographic area in the United States, representing 13 states and Pacific territories. Mr. Moore has been re-elected every election since then and is one of only 12 officers to serve on APWU's National Executive Board, the highest ranking authority of the APWU.

Mr. Moore has served APWU and its former unions for 35 years with distinction; one of the longest consecutive tenures in labor history. I am proud to salute him for his generous service to the union and the people of the western region of the United States.

MAJOR DRUG TRANSIT COUNTRY
ACT OF 1999, H.R. 2608

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, a front page story in last Friday's Miami Herald indicates the Administration has launched a full scale review of the role of Cuba in the drug trade. It's a review that along with many others here in the Congress we fully welcome. We look forward to seeing the Administration's conclusions on Cuba's links to drug trafficking targeting the United States.

The Miami Herald also points out that as part of the State Department's review, lawyers are having a hard time sorting out what a "major" drug transiting nation may be under federal law, and whether the designation of a "major" transit nation should take into account drugs that may just pass over Cuban skies or through its territorial waters on the way to the USA.

While a common sense interpretation of the law should assume that these illicit drugs, either passing over the skies of Cuba or through its territorial waters should be considered a factor in determining whether a nation is a major drug transiting country that substantially impacts the U.S., there appears to be some confusion down at Foggy Bottom.

The bill I introduced today, H.R. 2608 along with Chairman BURTON is very simple, addressing this issue of the major transiting nation list determination under the Foreign Assistance Act Section 481(e) as relates to drugs headed for the USA. This bill merely clarifies that the term "through which is transported" in fact expressly includes drugs passing through the territorial airspace, land and water of a country on the way to our nation. There should be no need for any more legal resource time on this issue.

It will be my intention to move this simple, non-controversial clarification bill through the House International Relations Committee quickly.

There should be no further confusion on this matter, so that the full review of the Cuban illicit narcotics situation not be distracted by endless debate over something as obvious as drugs passing over the skies of Cuba or being dropped into or moving through Cuban waters on the way to our cities and local communities.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the full text of the bill to clarify this situation.

H.R. 2608

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.

Section 481(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"For purposes of paragraph (5)(B), the term 'through which are transported' includes the territorial airspace, land, and water of a country."

**DON'T WRITE OFF RURAL
AMERICA**

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, rural America is hurting these days and the rest of the country should take notice. The current period of relative economic prosperity has abandoned most sectors of the agriculture economy, often because of deliberate decisions made at the White House.

For example, U.S. trade policy presently favors manufactured products, high tech equipment, and medical supplies in exchange for easy access to American markets for foreign farmers. Nor are trade policies fair for our

farmers and ranchers, Mr. Speaker. Foreign growers enjoy far easier access to our markets than we do to theirs.

Westerners tend to be closely tied to agriculture. That's why so many of my rural constituents find it hard to believe there are actually people in Washington, D.C. who harbor hostility toward them.

Just last month, Mr. Speaker, after his party voted against several rural issues, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee chairman told reporters Democrats have "written off the rural areas." The DCCC Chairman Rep. PATRICK KENNEDY (R.I.) later admitted he shouldn't have said it. I agree, but he did, and in doing so illustrated the disdain with which some in Congress view rural America.

Coloradans understand America must count on rural areas, not dismiss them. Statistics confirm the importance of rural settings. Agriculture is still America's number one employer providing more jobs, more business transactions, more entrepreneurial opportunities, and more paychecks than any other sector of the economy.

In Colorado alone, agriculture accounts for over 86,000 jobs, resulting in over \$12 billion of commerce. Clearly, Mr. Speaker, agriculture is integral to our economy and should not be ignored or "written off."

Colorado produces an impressive variety of commodities in addition to cattle, wheat, corn, potatoes, sugar beets and dairy products. Growers also raise pinto beans, peaches, carrots, mushrooms, barley, sunflowers, watermelon, oats, sorghum, quinoa and wine grapes. Our ranchers' expertise raising cattle, sheep, lambs, poultry and hogs, is expanding to include specialty livestock—bison, elk, emus, ostriches, and fish.

Agricultural products extend beyond food. Colorado is well-known for its production of fresh-cut flowers, sod and turf grass, and hay. Colorado's agricultural-based inputs also contribute vital components to the manufacturing of soaps, plastics, bandages, x-ray film, linoleum, shoes, crayons, paper, shaving cream, tires, and beer.

As consumers, rural Americans provide markets for goods and services, injecting much-needed capital into the marketplace. Rural purchases of trucks, tractors, houses, implements, fuel, computers, and other items have an enormous impact on the economy providing jobs and income for salespeople, waitresses, homebuilders, real estate agents, feed dealers, mechanics, and bank tellers just to name a few.

Still there are other reasons rural America matters. Colorado boasts over 24,000 farms and ranches, accounting for over half of our state's 66 million acres. People who live on the land are the best environmental stewards. Landowners work actively with soil conservation districts to protect water resources, manage wind erosion, reduce pollution, and control water runoff. In fact, Colorado's farmers are credited with saving an additional 51 million tons of topsoil annually for the past 10 years. They have also seeded 1.9 million acres of private land to permanent grassland under the Conservation Reserve Program, thereby producing thriving wildlife habitat.

Most of all, Mr. Speaker, America's soul is found in its rural communities. A nation launched by planters and preachers, America's founding strength was mustered and sustained by the moral character of rural people. Their values of hard work, honesty, integrity,

self-reliance and faith in God thrive in abundance today.

It is truly unfortunate anyone finds such attributes offensive. These are the very values our country needs if the new Millennium is to be as prosperous as the present.

Clearly, rural America is the bedrock of our Republic. Before more of Washington's elite determine otherwise, they would do well to check their facts, consider the farmer, and possibly even say a word of thanks before supper.

LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION
BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE
COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 1999

Mr. HILL of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my support for H.R. 1033, the Lewis and

Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act.

This bill will authorize the Department of the Treasury to mint 500,000 one-dollar coins to commemorate the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Mr. Speaker, many people don't realize it, but the expedition of these historic partners began at the Falls of the Ohio, in southern Indiana.

In October of 1803, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark joined with other explorers at the Falls of the Ohio to set off on their journey to explore the Louisiana Purchase. The crew departed on October 26, 1803, thus marking Clarksville, Indiana as the actual point of origin for the Lewis and Clark Expedition. From there, the Explorers' remarkable adventures spanned over 8,000 miles of unknown land.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of southern Indiana are proud of this heritage. Currently the three communities of Jeffersonville, Clarksville and New Albany are working together to build the Ohio River Greenway—an extensive project to revitalize the southern Indiana river-

front. The intended completion date for this project is set for 2003, just in time for these three communities to come together in celebration of the 200 year anniversary of the beginning of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

This bill will help highlight the extraordinary expedition by Lewis and Clark and will provide support for the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council and the National Park Service in efforts to plan and organize events to commemorate the bicentennial of this historic expedition.

And no commemoration would be complete without noting southern Indiana's part in the Lewis and Clark story. I encourage all Americans wishing to retrace the steps of the explorers or to learn more about the importance of the expedition to our nation, to visit the Falls of the Ohio and surrounding area.

I am proud that Congress is taking the initiative to promote and support the commemoration of such a remarkable piece of our American history.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 27, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 28

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 979, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide for further self-governance by Indian tribes.

SR-485

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. Con. Res. 28, urging the Congress and the President to increase funding for the Pell Grant Program and existing Campus-Based Aid Programs; S. 976, to amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to focus the authority of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration on community-based services children and adolescents, to enhance flexibility and accountability, to establish programs for youth treatment, and to respond to crises, especially those related to children and violence; and S. 632, to provide assistance for poison prevention and to stabilize the funding of regional poison control centers, and pending nominations.

SD-430

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to markup S. 25, to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people; S. 244, to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning and construction of the water supply system; S. 1330, to give the city of Mesquite, Nevada, the right to purchase at fair market value certain parcels of public land in the city; and S. 1329, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to

convey certain land to Nye County, Nevada.

SD-366

Rules and Administration

To hold oversight hearings on the operations of the Smithsonian Institution.

SR-301

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the Monetary Policy Report to Congress pursuant to the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978.

SH-216

Judiciary

To hold hearings on how to combat methamphetamine proliferation in America.

SD-628

11 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to markup S. 720, to promote the development of a government in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) based on democratic principles and the rule of law, and that respects internationally recognized human rights, to assist the victims of Serbian oppression, to apply measures against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and proposed legislation to prevent the further proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons; and to authorize appropriations for the provision of security assistance to certain foreign countries.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the activities of the Agency for International Development and United States climate change policy.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 624, to authorize construction of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System in the State of Montana; S. 1211, to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to authorize additional measures to carry out the control of salinity upstream of Imperial Dam in a cost-effective manner; S. 1275, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to produce and sell products and to sell publications relating to the Hoover Dam, and to deposit revenues generated from the sales into the Colorado River Dam fund; S. 1236, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for commencement of the construction of the Arrowrock Dam Hydroelectric Project in the State of Idaho; S. 1377, to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act regarding the use of funds for water development for the Bonneville Unit; and S. 986, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Griffith Project to the Southern Nevada Water Authority.

SD-366

JULY 29

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings on total quality management, focusing on state success sto-

ries as a model for the Federal Government.

SD-342

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed sulfur standard for gasoline as contained in the proposed Tier Two standards for automobiles.

SD-406

Year 2000 Technology Problem

To hold hearings on year 2000 Information Coordination Center.

SD-192

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Oceans and Fisheries Subcommittee

To hold hearings on authorizing funds for programs of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Employment, Safety and Training Subcommittee

To hold hearings on certain implications of the Fair Act on small businesses.

SD-430

10 a.m.

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1255, to protect consumers and promote electronic commerce by amending certain trademark infringement, dilution, and counterfeiting laws; S. 486, to provide for the punishment of methamphetamine laboratory operators, provide additional resources to combat methamphetamine production, trafficking, and abuse in the United States; the nomination of Richard A. Paez, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit; and the nomination of Alejandro N. Mayorkas, of California, to be United States Attorney for the Central District of California.

SD-628

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities Subcommittee

To hold hearings on accounting for loan loss reserves.

SD-538

2 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

2:15 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 710, to authorize the feasibility study on the preservation of certain Civil War battlefields along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail; S. 905, to establish the Lackawanna Valley American Heritage Area; S. 1093, to establish the Galisteo Basin Archaeological Protection Sites, to provide for the protection of archaeological sites in the Galisteo Basin of New Mexico; S. 1117, to establish the Corinth Unit of Shiloh National Military Park, in the vicinity of the city of Corinth, Mississippi, and in the State of Tennessee; S. 1324, to expand the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park to include Wills House; and S. 1349, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resource studies to determine the national significance of specific sites as well as the suitability and feasibility of their inclusion as units of the National Park System.

SD-366

3 p.m.
Foreign Relations
European Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings on prospects for democracy in Yugoslavia.

SD-419

JULY 30

10 a.m.
Foreign Relations
International Operations Subcommittee
To hold hearings on United States policy toward victims of torture.

SD-419

AUGUST 3

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 1052, to implement further the Act (Public Law 94-241) approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America.

SD-366

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the nomination of Charles A. Blanchard, of Arizona, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army; and the nomination of Carol DiBattiste, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force.

SR-222

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on proposed legislation to provide equitable compensation to the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

SR-485

10:30 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings on overlap and duplication in the Federal Food Safety System.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 692, to prohibit Internet gambling.

SR-485

AUGUST 4

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 299, to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health; and S. 406, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to make permanent the demonstration program that allows for direct billing of medicare, medicaid, and other third party payors, and to expand the eligibility under such program to other tribes and tribal organizations; followed by a business

meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-485

2:15 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings to review the performance management process under the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act, by the National Park Service.

SD-366

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine fraud against seniors.

SR-253

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.
Veterans Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.
345 Cannon Building

POSTPONEMENTS

JULY 28

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine telecommunication mergers and consolidation.

SR-253